This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1.   (Currently Amended)   A keyboard and display assembly of a printing device comprising:

a liquid crystal display included on the printing device capable of displaying information on a plurality of lines;

a processor located on the printing device, the processor controlling the information depicted on the display;

a potentiometer; and

a keyboard mounted on the printing device, the processor having a plurality of data entry keys coupled to the processor and at least one contrast key for controlling the contrast of the liquid crystal display, the contrast key being coupled directly coupled to the liquid crystal display by the potentiometer bypassing the processor.

2.   (Currently amended)   A keyboard and display assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein the liquid crystal display is capable of displaying information on at least five lines.

3.   (Currently amended)   A keyboard and display assembly as recited in claim 1 including a first contrast key for increasing the liquid crystal display's contrast and a second contrast key for decreasing the liquid crystal display's contrast.

4.   (Currently amended)   A keyboard and display assembly as recited in claim 1 including a wherein the potentiometer coupling the contrast key to the display, the potentiometer changesing its resistance in response to the contrast key being actuated.

5.   (Currently amended)   A keyboard and display assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein the potentiometer includesing a digital potentiometer, the digital potentiometer directly coupling the contrast key to the liquid crystal display, the digital potentiometer changing its resistance in response to the contrast key being pressed.

6.   (Currently amended) A keyboard and display assembly for a printer comprising:

a liquid crystal display mounted on the printer, the liquid crystal display capable of displaying information on a plurality of lines;

a processor located on the printer for controlling the information depicted on the liquid crystal display;

a keyboard mounted on the printer, the keyboard having a plurality of keys coupled to the processor and at least one contrast control key coupled to the liquid crystal display by a potentiometer such that the coupling of the contrast control key bypasses the processor.

7. (Currently amended) A keyboard and display assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein the liquid crystal display is capable of displaying information on at least five lines.

8. (Original) A keyboard and display assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein the potentiometer is a digital potentiometer that changes its resistance in response to the contrast key being pressed.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) A keyboard and display assembly for a barcode label printer comprising:

a liquid crystal display mounted on the barcode label printer, the liquid crystal display capable of displaying information on at least five lines;

a processor located on the barcode label printer for controlling the information depicted on the liquid crystal display;

a keyboard mounted on the barcode label printer, the keyboard having a plurality of keys coupled to the processor and a first contrast control key coupled to the liquid crystal display by a potentiometer to increase the display's contrast and a second contrast control key coupled to the liquid crystal display by the potentiometer to decrease the display's contrast, wherein the first and second contrast control keys are coupled to the liquid crystal display bypassing the processor.

11. (Original) A keyboard and display assembly as recited in claim 10 wherein the display is capable of displaying information on at least seven lines.

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12.   (Original) A keyboard and display assembly as recited in claim 10 wherein the potentiometer is a digital potentiometer that changes its resistance in response to either the first or second contrast key being actuated.

13.   (New) A method of changing contrast settings of a liquid crystal display mounted on a barcode label printer having a processor, a keyboard, and a potentiometer, the method comprising;

>   receiving at the processor a first contrast setting for the liquid crystal display;

>   displaying data on the liquid crystal display using the default contrast setting;

>   receiving a keyboard input from the keyboard;

>   adjusting the resistance of a potentiometer based on the received keyboard input, the received keyboard input bypassing the processor; and

>   varying the first contrast setting to create a second contrast setting for the liquid crystal display based on the resistance of the potentiometer.

14.   (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the first contrast setting comprises a default contrast setting.

15.   (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the potentiometer comprises a digital potentiometer.

16.   (New) The method of claim 13, wherein first contrast setting is received at the processor during a set-up mode of the barcode label printer.

17.   (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the step of varying the first contrast setting to create a second contrast setting is received during a data entry mode of the barcode label printer.

18.   (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the keyboard input comprises a contrast control key to increase the resistance of the potentiometer.

19.   (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the keyboard input comprises a contrast control key to decrease the resistance of the potentiometer.